

ON A NEW SPECIES OF CRYPTOSTEMMATIDAE
(HEMIPTERA-HETEROPTERA) FROM AUSTRALIA

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THE following new species of the Family Cryptostemmatidae is apparently the first to be recorded from Australia. The species belongs to *Ceratocombus* Signoret, and the wing venation (fig. C, D) shows that it is to be placed in the subgenus *Xylonannus* Reuter.

CERATOCOMBUS (XYLONANNUS) AUSTRALIENSIS sp. nov.

Holotype male; *forma brachyptera*.

Dark brown; rostrum, antennae and legs yellowish. Head with scattered long hairs (up to 0.15 mm.), eyes in lateral view distinctly higher than long, posterior margins concave. Antennae covered with long hairs (up to 0.13 mm.), third joint thicker at base than apex, tapering from former to latter, fourth joint with two incrassations one situated $\frac{1}{3}$, the other $\frac{2}{3}$ of its length, lengths of segments 0.06 mm., 0.17 mm., 0.42 mm., and 0.47 mm. Rostrum just reaching third coxae, first segment with scattered fine hairs, second and third apparently glabrous, lengths of segments 0.07 mm., 0.27 mm., and 0.25 mm.

Anterior femora somewhat incrassated, anterior tibiae thicker at apex than base, femora and tibiae apparently laterally compressed. All leg-segments pilose, the hairs on coxae much shorter than on other segments.

Pronotum trapeziform with a medial longitudinal impression and the groove demarcating the apical constriction more or less interrupted centrally. Anterior margins slightly convex, posterior strongly concave, lateral margins slightly convex before and again behind the apical constriction. Lateral margins and disc with short hairs. Dimensions of pronotum, anterior width 0.29 mm., posterior width 0.33 mm., greatest length 0.26 mm. Scutellum triangular, apical angle rounded.

Underside of abdomen with sparse short hairs becoming longer and more profuse on and in the vicinity of the genital segments. Venation of brachypterous elytra as in figure, covered with short hairs (0.03 mm.), which are not restricted to the veins and particularly numerous on the costal margin extending almost to apex.

Length 1.6 mm. Greatest width 0.48 mm.

Allotype female; *forma brachyptera*.

Similar to male but larger, with last joint of antennae apparently simple without the two incrassations of the male. Dimensions pronotum, anterior width 0.35 mm., posterior width 0.46 mm., greatest length 0.29 mm. Lengths antennal segments, 0.08 mm., 0.20 mm., 0.44 mm., and 0.46 mm.; lengths rostral segments, 0.10 mm., 0.39 mm., and 0.33 mm.

Length 1.7 mm. Greatest width 0.52 mm.

Paratype female; *forma macroptera*.

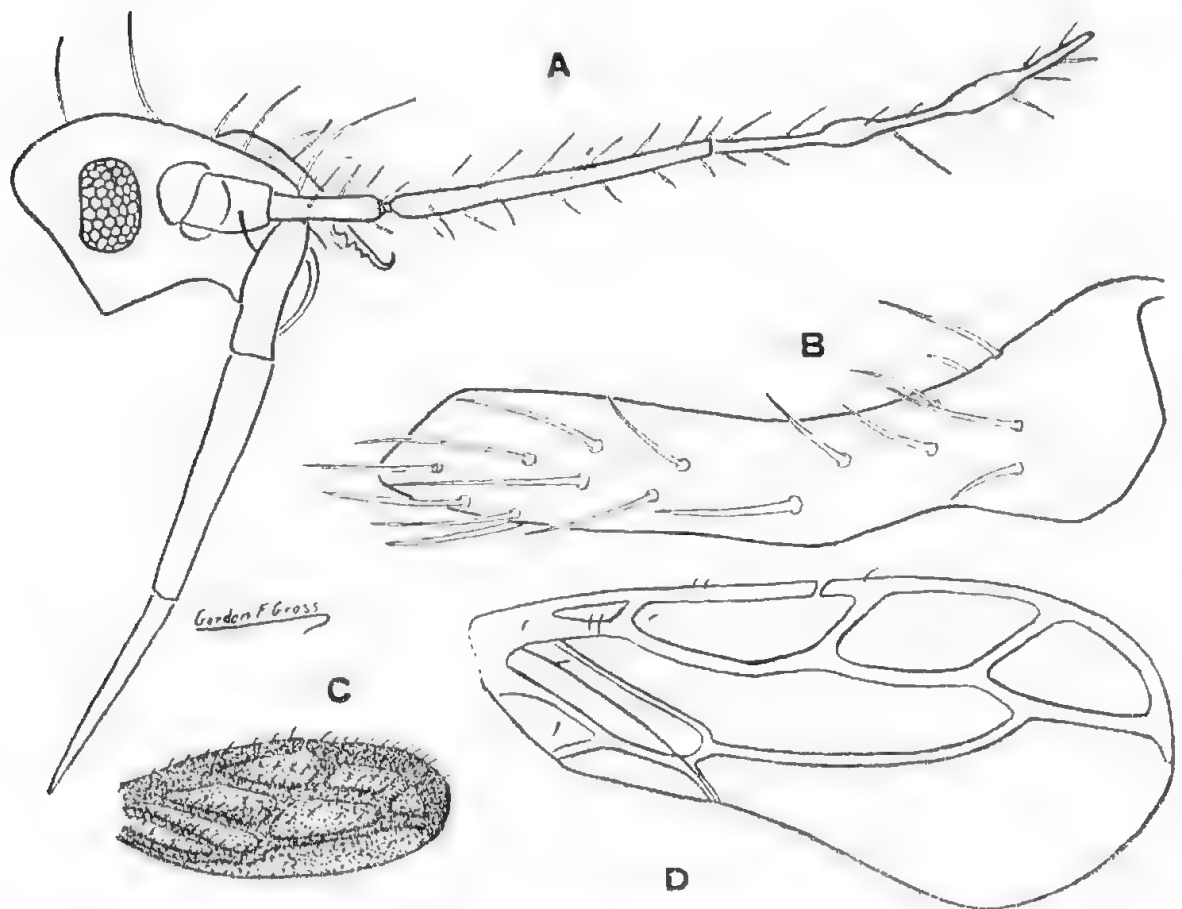


Fig. 1. *Ceratocombus (Xylonannus) australiensis*: A, lateral view of male head; B, lateral view of right larger male elasper; C, brachypterous clytron; D, macropterous clytron.

Only one of the paratypes is macropterous and as the specimen was carded and in bad condition, only the hemielytra are described (fig. D).

This shows a rather peculiar condition in that there is a single central large elongate cell formed by the disappearance of a cross vein which is present in the macropterous condition of all other species of *Xylonannus* and in the brachypterous condition of *C. (X.) australiensis* (cf. figs. C and D). The hairs are also very much more sparse than on the brachypterous hemielytron figured.

This species differs from *C. (X.) enderleini* Poppius, to which it seems most closely allied in the darker coloration and in the structure of the larger elasper of the male which is not provided basally with an inwardly directed tooth, whilst from *C. (X.) toda* Hutchinson, in its smaller size and in having the groove demarcating the apical constriction of the pronotum more or less interrupted centrally, and from *C. (X.) corticalis* Reuter, and *C. (X.) taiwanus* Poppius in having hairs on the disc of the elytra.

Holotype (I 20,038) and allotype (I 20,039) from Tapanappa, near C. Jervis, S. Aust., 6 Dec., 1949, G. F. Gross.

Paratypes from Mt. Lofty, Gawler and Melrose, S. Aust.; Waratah and Strahan, Tasmania; Upper Williams River, N.S.W.; Mt. Tambourine and Cairns District, Qld. and Lord Howe Island.

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